

From: Rob Leary
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:55am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To: microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov
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To: Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
601 D Street NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I believe that the proposed Microsoft antitrust settlement is not a powerful enough remedy for the personal computer market or U.S. consumers in general. The proposal, as written, is technically flawed, and does not provide enough mechanisms to penalize Microsoft for violating the spirit, if not the letter, of the law.

In particular, I believe that Microsoft must provide significant technical details, a minimum of 6 months in advance, to all software vendors regarding changes to the Windows APIs. Without this, Microsoft will be able to make changes to the APIs, effectively disabling non-Microsoft products, while introducing their own competing products that work.

I strongly urge the Justice Department and federal courts to instead use the proposed remedy from the nine dissenting states (http://www.naag.org/features/microsoft/ms-remedy_filing.pdf) as a more reasonable, robust remedy that will truly help promote competition and innovation in the marketplace. Otherwise, Microsoft will continue to use its monopoly power to stifle progress, something we cannot afford in today's society and economy.

Sincerely,

Robert Leary
rob@leary.net

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